

General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2002

LCO No. 3784

SB0042803784SR0

Offered by:

SEN. COOK, 18th Dist.

SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.

SEN. FREEDMAN, 26th Dist.

SEN. GENUARIO, 25th Dist.

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

SEN. NICKERSON, 36th Dist.

SEN. HERLIHY, 8th Dist.

SEN. RORABACK, 30th Dist.

SEN. KISSEL, 7th Dist.

SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35th Dist.

SEN. CAPPIELLO, 24th Dist.

REP. WARD, 86th Dist.

REP. BELDEN, 113th Dist.

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

REP. FLAHERTY, 68th Dist.

REP. BERNHARD, 136th Dist.

REP. BLACKWELL, 12th Dist.

REP. BOUCHER, 143rd Dist.

REP. CARON, 44th Dist.

REP. CARSON, 108th Dist.

REP. CHAPIN, 67th Dist.

REP. CLEARY, 80th Dist.

REP. D'AMELIO, 71st Dist.

REP. DANDROW, 30th Dist.

REP. PRELLI, 63rd Dist.

REP. POWERS, 151st Dist.

REP. DELGOBBO, 70th Dist.

REP. FAHRBACH, 61st Dist.

REP. FARR, 19th Dist.

REP. FEDELE, 147th Dist.

REP. FLOREN, 149th Dist.

REP. FREY, 111th Dist.

REP. GIBBONS, 150th Dist.

REP. GREENE, 105th Dist.

REP. HAMZY, 78th Dist.

REP. HEAGNEY, 16th Dist.

REP. NOUJAIM, 74th Dist.

REP. NYSTROM, 46th Dist.

REP. O'NEILL, 69th Dist.

REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.

REP. ROWE, 123rd Dist.

REP. RYAN, 141st Dist.

REP. SAN ANGELO, 131st Dist.

REP. SAWYER, 55th Dist.

REP. SCRIBNER, 107th Dist.

REP. SHEA, 112th Dist.

REP. STONE, 134th Dist.

REP. STRIPP, 135th Dist.

REP. TYMNIAK, 133rd Dist.

REP. WASSERMAN, 106th Dist.

REP. WINKLER, 41st Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 428 File No. 384 Cal. No. 244

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"AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STATUTES."

After line 88, insert the following:

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2 "Sec. 4. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Notwithstanding any other 3 provision of the general statutes, no state agency, including, but not 4 limited to, the Department of Environmental Protection and the 5 Connecticut Siting Council, shall consider or render a final decision 6 after the effective date of this section for a period of one year after the 7 effective date of this section for any applications relating to (1) an 8 electric power line crossing or gas pipeline crossing of Long Island 9 Sound including, but not limited to, an electrical power line or gas 10 pipeline application that is pending or has been received as of the 11 effective date of this section, or (2) an aboveground electric 12 transmission expansion project including, but not limited to, an 13 application for such project that is pending or has been received as of 14 the effective date of this section. During such twelve-month 15 moratorium on applications relating to crossings of Long Island 16 Sound, the Institute of Sustainable Energy at the Eastern Connecticut 17 State University shall convene a working group of all interested parties 18 to establish priorities and develop strategies for minimizing the 19 number and geographical distributions of such crossings of Long 20 Island Sound and shall make recommendations to the General 21 Assembly concerning such strategy. The provisions of this section shall 22 not apply to any project to replace an existing leaking cross-sound 23 electric transmission cable.

Sec. 5. (NEW) (Effective from passage) (a) Not later than one year from the effective date of this section, a comprehensive environmental assessment and plan shall be completed under the direction of the Institute for Sustainable Energy in conjunction with the assistance of a representative of: (1) The Department of Environmental Protection; (2) the aquaculture division of the Department of Agriculture; (3) the

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30 Department of Public Utility Control; (4) the regional independent

- 31 system operator, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, as
- 32 amended; (5) the National Marine Fisheries; (6) Save the Sound, Inc.;
- 33 (7) the Connecticut Fund for the Environment, Inc.; and (8) no more
- 34 than three representatives each from the electrical cable power
- 35 industry and the gas pipeline industry.
- 36 (b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the participation of other
- 37 persons in the development of the comprehensive environmental
- 38 assessment and plan.

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- (c) The comprehensive environmental assessment and plan shall 40 include, but not be limited to, the following: (1) An assessment of the 41 present status, future potential and environmental impacts of 42 proposed methods of providing power to Long Island that do not 43 require the laying of a power line or cable within Long Island Sound; 44 (2) an evaluation of methods to minimize the numbers and impacts of 45 electric power line crossings and gas pipeline crossings within Long 46 Island Sound; (3) an identification of those resources in Long Island 47 Sound that are ecologically sensitive including, but not limited to, 48 areas of environmental contamination that should be avoided; (4) 49 recommendations for providing for regional energy needs while 50 protecting Long Island Sound to the maximum extent possible; (5) 51 recommendations on natural resource performance bond levels to 52 reimburse the state in the event that future electric power line 53 crossings or gas pipeline crossings substantially damage the public
 - Sec. 6. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Any application for an electric power line or gas pipeline crossing of Long Island Sound that is considered by either the Department of Environmental Protection or the Connecticut Siting Council after the creation of the comprehensive environmental assessment and plan, described in section 5 of this act, shall additionally be evaluated for such application's: (1) Likelihood to

trust in the natural resources of Long Island Sound; and (6) an

identification of regional energy needs and the facilities necessary to

ensure the adequate supply of reliable energy to the region.

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impair the public trust in Long Island Sound based on the information contained in the comprehensive environmental assessment and plan; and (2) the extent to which the application is consistent with the recommendations of the comprehensive environmental assessment and plan described in section 5 of this act.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Connecticut Siting Council, within fifteen days of the effective date of this section shall submit the state's advisory opinion to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission requesting that, on behalf of the state, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission not approve any individual new electric power line crossing or gas pipeline crossings until the comprehensive environmental assessment and plan described in section 5 of this act is completed and that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission avoid environmental damage to Long Island Sound to the greatest extent possible when licensing any future gas pipelines by considering the recommendations contained in the comprehensive environmental assessment and plan described in section 5 of this act.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Nothing in this act shall be construed to affect the repair, as necessary, of existing cables and pipelines within Long Island Sound."